

Book and Tract Work.

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You have noticed probably the "Silent Evangelism" in some of the papers, and may have received some of the neat little cards. The origin of this work is interesting and suggestive. I will let one acquainted with the work tell the story.

A Western pastor was looking out of his window one stormy day when he saw a poorly clad umbrella-mender calling from house to house without any apparent success. Touched with pity for his forlorn condition, he opened his window and called out, "Brother, come over here." He first fed and warmed the man, then found an umbrella for him to work upon, and then sat down by his side and began to tell him of the Friend who "sticketh closer than a brother." The man was moved by the story, acknowledged his sin which was the common one of strong drink, and knelt down and committed the keeping of his life to Jesus. As he rose he said, "No one ever spoke to me in this way but once before," and drawing from his pocket a soiled card which contained the simple name "Mrs. W—," underneath the words "Who will pray for you daily," or something to that effect, he added "A year ago a woman talked kindly to me as you have done, and then gave me this card, and with all my faults there has not been a day since that I have not taken out this card and read it over and tried to be a better man because this woman is praying for me. So far as I know she is the only friend I have in the world, except—except you. I thank you for your interest in me and with God's help I will try to lead a Christian life." So impressed was the pastor with what this little card had done for that friendless man that he began to ponder the subject and pray over it and finally devised the little cards and case to hold them which are known as "Silent Evangelism." The cards are adapted to people of different ages and conditions in life. No one can tell how far their influence may go when they give a kind word and a leaflet to anyone who calls at the door.

One reason more, work of this kind is not done is because so many are not satisfied with what seems to be a little thing. They want to do some great work. The opportunity for doing little things pass by unimproved, and what might have led to a great work is left undone. Organize the little things. A grain of wheat is not much but unite it with other grains, plant

it, and then let the elements co-operate and there is a harvest. So with spiritual work. Mr. Moody illustrates this point:

"I remember hearing of a person who was always trying to do some great thing for the Lord, and because he could not do a great thing, he never did anything. There are a great many who would be willing to do great things if they could come up and have their names heralded through the press. I heard of a man's dream in which he imagined that when he died he was taken by the angels to a beautiful temple. After admiring it for a time he discovered that one stone was missing. All finished, but just one little stone left out. He said to the angel, "Why is this stone left out?" The angel replied, "That was left for you, but you wanted to do great things, and so the temple was not finished." He was startled and awoke, and resolved that he would become a worker for God; and that man always worked faithfully after that."

One beautiful feature of this work is, that while you may not be able to go out and work yourself you can employ others, and "thus preach by proxy." The results will be just as great. There are some who have the time but not the means, others have the means but not the time; form a union and the work is done. The editor of a paper devoted to this work, relates the following from his experience:

A few days ago the writer was giving a Bible reading one very stormy afternoon. The rain poured in torrents and it seemed hardly worth while to hold the service. However, some ten or a dozen appeared and the reading was given. In the course of the sermon a remark was made that a person could employ a Bible reader in some parts of India for the sum of \$25 per year, wages there being only five or six cents per day. This Bible reader goes from house to house reading the Bible and praying with people, and devotes his entire time to this kind of evangelistic work. Many a family with a little sacrifice, and doubtless some without sacrifice could afford to have a substitute in foreign lands to preach the Gospel for them. When they retire at night they have the satisfaction of knowing that their substitute is just beginning his day's work on the other side of the globe, and that thus they are really putting twenty-four hours into Christian work. When the service was over a gentleman offered to take a Bible reader and another afterwards sent a check for \$25 saying that he would be glad to employ a substitute. Thus an accidental remark in that stormy day ser-

vice with a bare handful of people results in putting at work two new missionaries who may lead hundreds and perhaps thousands to a knowledge of Jesus. And that is not all, for some of those who read this article may be moved to do the same thing, and thus preach by proxy.

We are arranging for special tracts and pamphlets. Several manuscripts are now in my hands, and others are being prepared. Before a great while we will be able to supply the needs of the church in this direction, provided we are able to start them on the market. After they are issued they will help perpetuate themselves, but it takes money to start them out on their great mission. Will you not respond and help "just a little."

The committee on literature in the Carleton church are scattering tracts each Sunday evening; at the close of the service they are handed out. Last Sunday, the card was a very suggestive one. It was printed in three colors, black, red, and white,—sin, blood, purity, with Scripture references on the back. I have written for special prices on this card and will announce later, should any desire to use it. We have scattered them at Bethany and Preston also, and find it helpful. I have some good evidence that this work pays.

Now sisters and brothers, let us push the cause, from the centre out, make Jesus known, he will do the saving. Get souls in the church, he will do the protecting, and now is the time to work.

SELF INDULGENCE is a besetting sin of the times; but if you long to be a strong, athletic Christian, you must count the cost. It will cost you the cutting up of old favorite sins by the roots, and the cutting loose from entangling alliances, and some sharp conflicts with the tempter; it will cost you the submitting of your will to the will of Christ; but it is worth all it costs, and more.

"No matter where you find a man of faith, you will find him making some one else rich."

Matrimonial.

SCHOLL—PALMER.—At the home of the bride's parents, brother Augustine Palmer, Needmore, Ohio, Mr. Homer M. Scholl and sister Mary H. Palmer, were married on the evening of May 15, 1896. Glenford, O. J. M. BOWMAN.